

March 14, 2005

## **POST-CONSTRUCTION BMPS**

To Engineers and Developers:

### **RE: BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES REQUIRED (SECTION #23)**

The City of Memphis has been issued an NPDES storm water permit by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) that requires the City to implement a variety of programs to identify, eliminate, and prevent the discharge of pollutants into the storm drain system flowing through the City. One of the issues specifically addressed by the permit is pollution prevention in runoff from developed properties, referred to as "Post-Construction Runoff."

In order to meet this requirement, beginning on September 1, 2005, all developments in the City of Memphis will be required to submit a plan for "structural and/or non-structural best management practices (BMPs)." "Developments" includes new development as well as significant redevelopment, particularly when the land use changes. This "Post-Construction Runoff Control Plan" (PCRCP) is to be included with the plan set provided to the City. The PCRCP must be signed and sealed by a Tennessee Registered Professional Engineer.

In some cases, it may not be obvious whether a PCRCP is needed. For a determination of whether a Post-Construction Runoff Control Plan is required for redevelopment, submit a letter describing the current and past land use and the proposed land use, along with plans showing the before and after layout of the site, in particular impervious areas and drainage basins.

The submittal of the Post-Construction Runoff Control Plans will be phased in. Beginning July 1, 2005, the City will review PCRCPs included in submittals. Beginning September 1, 2005, PCRCPs are required to be included in the plans submitted and approved before the plan set is signed by the City Engineer. It is recommended that PCRCPs be included as soon as possible, since failure to install proper post-construction BMPs may result in the City requiring the installation once construction is completed, depending on runoff characteristics. Installation later is often at a much higher cost than incorporating that BMP into the initial design.

At the commencement of construction of the on-site BMPs, the owner is required to contact the storm water program at 901-576-6721 to arrange for an inspection of the installation, which will continue as needed through the end of construction.

I am providing this notice to ensure that you have sufficient time to ensure that your design professionals are adequately trained in the selection and design of water quality BMPs. The City is working with training vendors to provide training in Memphis on water quality BMP selection and design, however, it is your responsibility to ensure that the design professionals preparing the PCRCPs are adequately trained and submit complete designs in compliance with engineering standards of practice. Parameters to be addressed include the following for all sites:

- Litter.
- Visible pollutants, such as sand, soil and grit, or that would discolor runoff.
- Oil and other vehicle fluids.
- Parameters listed in the TDEC 303(d) list for the water bodies into which the development discharges and for which the development could be a reasonable source.

The PCRCP must also include the ownership information and mailing address for the person or entity responsible for the maintenance of the BMPs and the maintenance requirements (or a reference to the location of the maintenance requirements).

Note that permit requirements include requiring existing facilities that are identified as discharging pollutants to develop and implement procedures and to design and install BMPs to prevent the discharge of pollutants, as needed. Thus, BMP selection, design and installation will be required on these facilities, as identified based on water quality issues.

Thank you for working with us to ensure that pollution is not discharged into our rivers and creeks along with storm water runoff. If you have any questions about this letter, contact me at 901-576-7122.

Sincerely,

THOMAS B. LAWRENCE, P.E.  
CITY OF MEMPHIS STORM WATER PROGRAM

CC: Saya Qualls, TDEC